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LETTER DATED 19 JANUARY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the pleasure of transmitting to you herewith a statement by the Revolution Command Council dated 19 January 1993 concerning its decision to cease firing as of 8 a.m. today, 20 January 1993, Baghdad time.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council and bring the statement to the attention of its members.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement issued by the Revolution Command Council of Iraq on 19 January 1993

In view of the accession to the presidency of the United States of a new President, as a gesture of good will on the part of Iraq to new American President Bill Clinton and, through him, to the American people and to all who cherish peace and justice in the world, and as an expression of the will of our great people, which has affirmed its love for peace and its faith in the ideals of mankind, the Revolution Command Council has decided on the following:

A cease-fire as of 8 a.m. Baghdad time on 20 January 1993, except in the event of firing by the other party, with a view to affording the new United States Administration an opportunity to consider the ban on Iraqi aviation in areas of northern and southern Iraq, so that it may verify, in a situation of calm where considerations of combat conditions are not involved, that the decision of the previous Administration and its associates to impose the ban was a unilateral and unwarranted one and one aimed at achieving particular political objectives that have no connection with the resolutions of the United Nations, and so as to allow scope for the new Administration to establish a constructive dialogue.

We believe that the coming months are sufficient for the consideration of this question by the new United States Administration and for an understanding of the other issues, particularly that of lifting the unjust embargo maintained against the people of Iraq despite the discharge by Iraq of the oppressive obligations imposed upon it by Security Council resolution 687 (1991).